

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05442 181720Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 181634Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9438

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 5442

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UR, PFOR, ASTP

SUBJECT: HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGE TO MARK ASTP FLIGHT

REF: STATE 087678

1. I CALLED ON KORNIYENKO, HEAD OF USA SECTION, MFA, THIS AFTERNOON TO PROPOSE EXCHANGE MF HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATIONS TO WITNESS LAUNCHING OF ASTP FLIGHT. WE WOULD HOPE OUR DELEGATION COULD ACTUALLY WITNESS LAUNCHING, I SAID. WE ENVISAGE DELEGATION AT CABINET LEVEL WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ONE OR MORE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, I CONTINUED. IF SOVIETS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE WE WILL GO AHEAD AND WORK OUT FINAL COMPOSITIN AND LEVEL OF DELEGATIONS.

2. IN REPLY, KORNIYENKO NOTED THAT NO CABINET MEMBER HAS DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR SPACE MATTERS AND HE THERFORE ASSUMED THAT DELEGATION WOULD BE POLITICAL IN NATURE.

HE SAID SOVIET SIDE WOULD CONSIDER OUR SUGGESTION AND WOULD LET US KNOW ITS REACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT ANY EXCHANGE OF DELEGATIONS SHOULD BE RECIPROCAL, AND I AGREED.

3. IN THIS CONNECTION, I NOTED RECENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR RESPECTIVE POSTAL AUTHORITIES TO ISSUE STAMPS COMMEMORATING THE APOLLO-SOYUZ FLIGHT AND SAID IT WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A VERY GOOD THING. KORNIYENKO EVIDENTLY HAD NOT HEARD

OF THIS BUT AGREED IT WAS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT.

4. COMMENT: KORNIYENKO'S INITIAL REACTION SEEMED QUITE FAVORABLE. I DID NOT MENTION CONTROL CENTER FALLBACK POSITION PENDING KORNIYENKO'S REACTION TO THIS PROPOSAL. STOESEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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